

UNION COUNTY FISCAL COURT MEETING  
October 12, 2021

All supporting documents to these Minutes may be found in the office of the County Judge/Executive.

The meeting opened at 9:00 a.m. with a Prayer by Bro. Jerry Manning, and the Pledge to the American Flag.

The Union County Fiscal Court met in a regular meeting with Judge Executive Adam O’Nan presiding. The Union County Fiscal Court met in the upstairs Courtroom and the meeting was livestreamed on Facebook. Magistrates present were Wyatt, Floyd, Ricketts, Bynes, and Clements.

The minutes from the September 24, 2021 meeting were accepted as read.

Judge O’Nan presented a Proclamation stating that the week of October 18-22, 2021 is proclaimed as Retired Teachers’ Appreciation Week in Union County. Magistrate Floyd made a motion declaring October 18-22, 2021 as Retired Teachers’ Appreciation Week in Union County, seconded by Magistrate Clements, motion carried.

Judge O’Nan presented a Proclamation stating that the week of October 10-16, 2021 is proclaimed as Kentucky Extension Homemakers Week in Union County. Magistrate Ricketts made a motion declaring October 10-16, 2021 as Kentucky Extension Homemakers Week, seconded by Magistrate Clements, motion carried.

Corey Elder, our Local Contact from Congressman Comer’s Office, was present in Court to give an update on what the Congressman and his office have been working on. Recently, Congressman Comer introduced a Bi-Partisan Bill to expand critical home healthcare options, since home healthcare is so important to our rural communities in trying to increase the quality of life for our aging population. He also stated that in regards to the \$600 IRS Banking Rule, Congressman Comer is definitely speaking out against this rule and does not support it. In regards to the Good Kentucky Coal, he said with there being an energy shortage worldwide, Congressman Comer has been talking about the importance of coal and how we need it to make sure that we have a reliable energy grid so that we can stay warm this winter and to have other electric capabilities. With the spending bills in D.C., Congressman Comer said that when Union County gets Federal dollars’ they are really good stewards of the money and make sure that it goes to toward projects that are going to get used and stuff that is going to improve the community. In the last spending bill, Comer thought that there was a lot of stuff in it that was not a good steward of tax dollars. He definitely feels that the ARPA money that the county received has a lot of positive impact but does not see that happening with the next round of stimulus, so he trying to make sure that the funds that get approved will be put toward good useful projects. Corey stated that last year, Congressman Comer became a ranking member on the Oversight Committee, making him a minority, and is hopeful to become the chairman of the Committee next year, which will give him

subpoena power to go after some waste product abuse in D.C. Lastly, he stressed to the Court and the community that if anyone has any type of issue, to reach out to their office and they will be more than glad to help in any way they can.

County Clerk, Garrick Thompson presented to the Court a revised quote from Harp Enterprises, Inc. regarding the new election equipment and software. Garrick stated that the new quote has us purchasing 20 Verity Scanners instead of 23, 1 Verity Printer instead of 2 and 46 Verity Drives instead of 50. These revisions will save \$25,009, making the amount \$192,275 and when you deduct the \$30,000 that the State Board of Elections is giving to counties needing new equipment, this brings the total to \$162,275 instead of \$217,284. The State Board of Elections has still not released the exact amount that counties will receive, but Garrick said that the minimum amount received would be \$30,000 and that it could be more. After discussing, Magistrate Ricketts made a motion to approve the purchase of new election equipment and software at the revised quote amount of \$162,275, less anything over the \$30,000 received from the State, seconded by Magistrate Wyatt, motion carried.

Angela Smith, District EMS Manager with Deaconess Health System and James Ivy, Local Onsite EMS Manager with Deaconess EMS came before the Court to give their first full Fiscal Year Update from October 1, 2020-September 30, 2021. Angela started by giving an update on some of their great outreach projects, which are:

- Deaconess EMS donated AED Devices to Union County's Volunteer Fire Departments. She said that the Volunteer Fire are usually first on scene and without them and the First Responders, they would not be able to do the job they do. These were donated as a way of saying Thank You and provide a little more coverage for lifesaving emergencies.
- Their PR Department will be launching an advertising campaign in the next few weeks with billboards showcasing their newly wrapped ambulances. This is to let the county know that just because the wraps on the ambulances have changed from Union County to Deaconess, our ambulances are still here. The billboard should be placed on HWY 60, South of Jim Veatch Road.
- They will be participating in our Community Public Safety Day in Morganfield on Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at the Morganfield Fire Department.

She then went over some numbers for the Fiscal Year which are:

- There were 2,767 runs made in Union County, which is a significant increase from the previous year.
- They're averaging 35-37 EMS runs a day, compared to 27 from the previous year. Angela said that some of the increase is due to Covid.
- Response Time Averages for the City of Morganfield in September were on average 10:20. Response Time Averages for Outlying Areas were on average 14:41 and the entire Fiscal Year combined was 12:71. Their goal is less than 15 minutes.

Outlier Data (Runs that take longer than 15 minutes):

- For April-August there were 26 outlier runs making the on-time average 97.8%.

Majority of reasons for the extended response times:

- System overload of 911 calls
- Distance of calls from ambulance location
- Covid extended scenes and turnover times...Meaning: that Covid patients tend to wait until they're really ill before they call 911 and when their crew gets there, they have to put on all their PPE before entering the home and it takes more time to care for extremely ill patients
- With Covid cases, it's not a quick drop off once at the hospital. There is an extended handoff time for Covid patients as well as a full decontamination of the ambulance before it can move on to its next call.

After giving her report, Angela stated that "Union County First Responders are Great at what they do and the County should feel safe'.

Judge O'nan made a request to set advertisement dates for the purchase of 2 new fire trucks, one for the Union County Volunteer Fire Department and one for the Whispering Meadows Fire Department. He said that the last time any fire trucks were purchased was in 1993 and 6 were purchased at that time. Magistrate Wyatt and EMA Director, Rick White worked with Dale Pierce, Chief of the Whispering Meadows Fire Department and Josh Millikan, Chief of the Union County Volunteer Fire Department to prepare the specs. These trucks will take 15-18 months to be delivered and will be paid for with Coal Severance Funds. Magistrate Wyatt made a motion to advertise for 2 new fire trucks on October 20, 2021 and October 27, 2021 and to open bids on November 9, 2021, seconded by Magistrate Clements, motion carried.

Judge O'Nan gave an update on the Uniontown Water Rescue Building. He stated that there was a small problem with a Worker's Comp. lien that was on the building, but that it had been taken care of years ago and just wasn't taken off the books. It's all clear now. County Attorney, Julie Wallace is going to draw up the deed for the Uniontown Water Rescue to sell their current building to CBG and we are going to get a contract with the Nally's to purchase their building. He's hoping to have the contract ready for the next Court meeting. He asked the Court to approve giving \$5,000 (which will be taken off of the purchase price) as earnest money to the Nally's to get the process moving along. Magistrate Floyd made a motion to give \$5,000 to the Nally's as earnest money for the purchase of the building, seconded by Magistrate Byrnes, motion carried.

Judge O'Nan stated that he is wanting to allocate some money to the Uniontown Water Rescue for renovations of the building. He asked Magistrate Floyd if he could meet with Chief Girten to get an idea of what they are thinking about doing, which will give him a better idea on the amount to request from the Court. Magistrate Floyd will give an update on his meeting at our next Court meeting.

Judge O'Nan present to the Court the Annual Summit Group Consulting Contract from Jeanne E. Devlin with FEMA. He stated that previously our FEMA contract was with Disaster Law LLC., which Jeanne was a part of and they have since disbanded. Jeanne is our new representative so the Judge asked for the Court's approval to be able to sign the new contract after County Attorney, Julie Wallace

looks over it and gives her approval. Magistrate Clements made a motion to approve Judge O’Nan to sign said contract if approved by Our County Attorney, seconded by Magistrate Floyd, motion carried.

County Engineer, Sean Sheffer gave an update on the Uniontown Dredge Project. Sean stated that only 1 bid was received and on September 23, 2021 he and Magistrate Clements opened the bid and awarded it to Mark Bowling, Inc., in the amount of \$3,200,200. This bid met all of the specifications and is contingent on the approval of the Division of Water to give their annual permit. Magistrate Floyd made a motion to take the bid award under advisement, until they could meet with Jeanne Devlin to find out what’s the next step in moving forward with this, seconded by Magistrate Wyatt, motion carried.

Judge O’Nan gave an update on House Bridge Road Bridge saying that he hopes that they are on sight this morning. He spoke with them on Friday and they assured him that they were going to be here this morning. Magistrate Clements confirmed that they had a boom truck on site unloading supplies. The Judge said that they are going to get started on the ground work and while they are here, if they aren’t able to work on this bridge for some reason, they will alternate and work on the Waller Omer Road Bridge.

Judge O’Nan told the Court that the Road Department has a bushhog down. They are having a hard time finding parts to repair it and if they do find the parts it will be at least 8 weeks to get them. With it being mowing season and not having time to wait, he asked the Court to approve the purchase of a new one. They obtained 2 quotes, which were:

1. H&R Agri-Power/Land Pride RC5715 - \$20,100 (on-site with a 7yr. warranty on gear box)
2. John Deere/Hutson/John Deere FC15R - \$24,486.44 (has to be ordered)

Magistrate Clements made a motion to approve the purchase of a new bushhog from H&R Agri-Power in the amount of \$20,100 for the Road Department, seconded by Magistrate Floyd, motion carried. Road Supervisor, Tony Ratley said that depending on the cost and availability of the parts to repair the old bushhog, it will be put into surplus.

Judge O’Nan presented a revised copy of Sheriff Mickey Arnold’s revenue bond, which has to be approved by the Court. The bond was revised to reflect language to meet the statutory requirements of KRS 134.230. Magistrate Wyatt made a motion to approve Sheriff Arnold’s revised revenue bond, seconded by Magistrate Ricketts, motion carried.

Judge O’Nan presented a resolution, drawn up by County Attorney, Julie Wallace, approving an Interlocal Agreement between the Union County Fiscal Court and the City of Uniontown. This agreement will give the Union County Sheriff’s Department the authority to enforce the Ordinances of the city. At this time, Uniontown has no law enforcement outside of what the County provides so the Judge asked the Court for their approval of this agreement. Magistrate Floyd made a motion to approve said Interlocal Agreement, seconded by Magistrate Byrnes, motion carried.

Magistrate Floyd made a motion to approve transfers, seconded by Magistrate Ricketts, motion carried.

Claims are to be paid as presented. Judge O’Nan asked the Court for their approval to allow a check to be written today for \$5,000 to be used as earnest money for the purchase of the Uniontown Water Rescue building, if the Nally’s require it. Magistrate Clements made a motion to give approval for the Court to write a check today in the amount of \$5,000 to be used as earnest money for the purchase of the Uniontown Water Rescue building, if required by the Nally’s, seconded by Magistrate Floyd, motion carried.

Judge O’Nan gave an update on our Covid rates. He said that 1 case was reported yesterday. Because the County was hit so hard recently with new cases, our vaccination rate went up to 40% and that we are at 84.8% of having residents aged 65 and older in the County vaccinated. He also gave an update on the county’s new website. He said that they are working really hard and that it’s going to be awesome in moving Union County forward. It may be completed in April or May, 2022.

Magistrate Wyatt announced that District 1 and District 5 are having a joint fall cleanup at the Old Morganfield Airport on Friday, October 22, 2021 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and Saturday, October 23, 2021 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Magistrate Clements made a motion to approve said cleanup, seconded by Magistrate Wyatt, motion carried.

Magistrate Ricketts wanted to know how the Fleet Management was going as far as record keeping, etc.? Lissa stated that the record keeping is amazing. They provide all the information we could ever need regarding the maintenance on vehicles. The Judge said that it provides our Head Mechanic, Jerry Dempsey and others information on what needs to be done as far as maintenance on the vehicles, instead of relying on a dealership telling us what needs to be done.

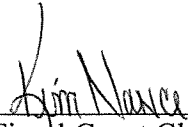
Magistrate Byrnes expressed his concerns regarding trailers on Chestnut Street. County Attorney, Julie Wallace said that Megan Randolph was working to match up properties with our PVA, since no addresses were provided and she was fairly certain that letters were sent out.

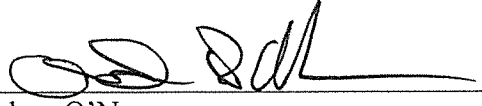
He is also concerned about there not being a shoulder on Chestnut Street, it’s just a drop off. Tony Ratley said that he would look into it and see what it will take to put a shoulder down.

Magistrate Clements wanted an update on the Rescue Squad Building. The Judge stated that all documents have been signed but it’s really hard to get some of the supplies at this time. Magistrate Wyatt said that when talking to County Engineer, Sean Sheffer, he said that it would be January or February before all the materials are in.

He then asked Tony to clarify the boundary at the Waverly Bottoms. Tony stated that they are waiting on a call back from Henderson County’s Road Foreman and Engineer in regards to this.

There being no further business to come before the Court, a motion to adjourn was made by Magistrate Ricketts, seconded by Magistrate Byrnes, motion carried.

  
Fiscal Court Clerk  
Kim Nance

  
Adam O'Nan  
County Judge/Executive